



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SANITATION DISTRICTS**
Converting Waste Into Resources

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September 22, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1021 O St, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

SB 682 (Allen) (As Amended on September 9, 2025):
Environmental Health: Product Safety: PFAS – Request for Signature

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (Sanitation Districts), I am writing to request your signature on SB 682 by Senator Ben Allen, which would ban the distribution and sale of cleaning products, dental floss, juvenile products, food packaging, and ski wax containing intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) starting from January 1, 2028, followed by a phase-out of cookware with intentionally added PFAS on January 1, 2030. SB 682 would reduce the amount of PFAS entering water sources and the environment to safeguard public health from these persistent toxic chemicals.

PFAS is the umbrella term for tens-of-thousands of chemicals based on a carbon-fluorine bond that is one of the strongest known natural chemical bonds. The strength of this bond has led to PFAS being termed “forever chemicals” because they are highly resistant to degradation in the environment and our bodies. Unfortunately, PFAS can pose severe long-term health risks, such as increased risks of cancer, and can harm the liver and affect the functioning of the immune system over time. They are also used in a wide array of consumer products, from swimsuits, outdoor gear, and cleaning supplies to nonstick cookware, pet food packaging, and floor waxes.

The Sanitation Districts provide wastewater and solid waste services to 5.5 million people in 78 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. We do not produce PFAS, but PFAS enters wastewater treatment systems through drains when people wash pans, use cleaning products, do laundry, and even when they go to the bathroom. It also ends up in landfills when products and packaging are disposed. The prevalence of PFAS in everyday products and numerous source pathways has already contaminated drinking water sources all over California and the nation and has led to the inescapable presence of PFAS in wastewater and solid waste.

In an effort to droughtproof Southern California, the Sanitation Districts have supplied recycled water for beneficial uses such as irrigation or groundwater recharge for decades. Treated wastewater is also discharged to the ocean or other local waterways. However, our current wastewater treatment technologies are not designed to remove PFAS. Emerging drinking water and surface water quality regulations may necessitate investing billions of dollars for advanced levels of treatment at water and wastewater facilities to address PFAS contamination. These costs will place a substantial financial burden on the communities we serve by triggering significant rate increases that challenge the affordability of essential water and wastewater services.

By prohibiting manufacturers from intentionally adding PFAS to specified consumer products, SB 682 will both improve public health by reducing exposure to these harmful chemicals and decrease the amount of PFAS entering water and waste management systems and the environment. Acting boldly to turn off the spigot of PFAS in consumer products is the **only** meaningful and cost-effective way to potentially avoid further PFAS contamination and avert the need for expensive treatment systems. The product categories included in SB 682 have already been included in similar PFAS phaseout legislation in other states, so manufacturers should already be taking steps to find safer alternatives. California has made great legislative strides this year to improve affordability for our communities. SB 682 is a critical component for long-term affordability by protecting ratepayers from daily exposure to toxic chemicals and the need to pay for expensive investments in treatment infrastructure.

SB 682 provides a meaningful opportunity for California to reduce the use of PFAS in products and is one of – if not the – highest impact environmental and public health protection bills sent to you by the Legislature this year. For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to sign SB 682 into law. If you have any questions about our position, please contact Sharon Green, Legislative Programs Manager, at sgreen@lacs.org or (562) 908-4288, ext. 2503. I appreciate your consideration of our comments.

Very truly yours,



Robert C. Ferrante

RCF:SNG:djm

cc: Senator Ben Allen